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June 27, 2007

Mr. J. I. Palmer, Jr., Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA, Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

RE: June 2007 Early Action Compact Progress Report

Dear Mr. Palmer:

South Carolina continues to be committed to the 8-hour Ozone Early Action Process. Partnership opportunities have been developed and the awareness of local officials about air quality issues has resulted in proactive, voluntary and regulatory actions that would not have occurred without the Early Action Compact (EAC) process. In South Carolina we continue to see activities that remain a part of the EAC process, above and beyond that required of an area with a "traditional" nonattainment designation.

South Carolina EAC's identify "key" milestones that are required for the continued deferral of the effective date of nonattainment designations and also milestones that track the progress being made by the state and local areas toward adoption and implementation of emission reduction measures. The attached document includes the table provided by EPA's guidance document of October 17, 2005, for each participating county identifying each of the local measures included in their respective local early action plan. Additionally, a narrative description of activity from the five deferred nonattainment areas is included in Enclosure 1. Information regarding stakeholder meetings and other activities that have occurred since December 2006, specific details documenting the progress toward measures included in the local early action plans, as well as specific details documenting additional measures being pursued, are included for each county and are grouped by the following areas:

Appalachian: Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg
Catawba: Chester, Lancaster, Union, York
Pee Dee: Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marion, Marlboro
Waccamaw: Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg
Santee Lynches: Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter
Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester (B-C-D): Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester
Low Country: Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper

Lower Savannah: Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Orangeburg
Central Midlands: Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Richland
Upper Savannah: Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, Saluda

While the emission reduction strategies submitted by the local areas contain both quantifiable and directionally sound measures, it should be noted that none of them were used to demonstrate attainment in 2007. Nonetheless, it is expected that these measures will assist the counties in achieving and or maintaining compliance with the 8-hour ozone standard. A table and narrative description identifying statewide activities and progress made toward each is included. South Carolina looks forward to continuing to work with EPA and other stakeholders in additional future activities.

The Department continues to be pleased with the energy of the participants in the EAC process including counties, agencies, universities, organizations, businesses, industries and environmental groups. The continuing effort of these groups in anticipation of the conclusion of the 2007 ozone season is a marvelous example of partnerships in many directions. Each of these diverse parties has come together for a worthy common goal of providing cleaner air sooner to the citizens of South Carolina. As a result of these efforts, no exceedances of the 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard are expected. Data from the 2007 ozone season will be submitted once all the data has been verified.

Thank you for the continued assistance and support EPA has provided in this process. We look forward to continuing to work with EPA and other stakeholders as we implement measures to achieve cleaner air sooner for our citizens. Should you have questions or desire additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (803) 896-8940 or Myra Reece, Chief of the Bureau of Air Quality at (803) 898-4123.

Sincerely,



Robert W. King, Jr., P.E.
Deputy Commissioner
Environmental Quality Control

Enclosures

cc: Kay Prince, EPA Region 4
County Officials (no attachments*)
Ron Methier, GA Dept. of Natural Resources (no attachments*)
Keith Overcash, NC Dept. of Environmental and Natural Resources (no attachments*)
Myra Reece (no attachments*)
EQC Regional Directors (no attachments*)

*All those not receiving attachments will be notified when materials are placed on our website.

South Carolina's Ozone Early Action Compact
June 2007 Progress Report
Enclosures
June 27, 2007

1. Local EAC Activities for Participating Areas
2. Statewide EAC Activities